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NEWS BRIEFS

Black man sentenced to 19 1/2 years for Crown Heights killing

NEW YORK (AP)—A black man who insisted he's been made a scapegoat was sentenced to 19 1/2 years in prison for the fatal stabbing of a Jewish scholar during a series of race riots in Brooklyn's Crown Heights neighborhood.

A Brooklyn federal judge handed down the maximum sentence Tuesday for Lemrick Nelson, Jr., 22, who was convicted of violating the civil rights of Yitzhak Rosenberg, the man who was stabbed to death in 1991.

"I am sympathetic to your feelings of loss for your son. I had no action, no part in it," said Nelson to the dead man's family.

N.J. state police shut down fake driver's license ring

TRENTON (AP)—State police say a high-tech counterfeit ring created fake New Jersey driver's licenses and netted \$1.5 million over a two-year period.

The bogus IDs were sold to thousands of underage students, Verniero said. Rutgers University in New Brunswick was the ring's primary staging ground, police said.

"We believe thousands of students were customers," using the phony licenses as proof of age to buy alcohol, Attorney General Verniero said. "We may never know the identities of many of them."

N.J. cigarettes may go up to \$4 a pack with national bill

TRENTON—A State negotiator recently agreed on most provisions of a national tobacco bill that would boost cigarette prices by \$1.10 a pack over five years and give the federal government broad authority to regulate nicotine.

If signed into law, the bill could drive the price of cigarettes to over \$4 a pack in New Jersey, which doubled its own excise tax to 80 cents per pack in January. The state's tax, one of the highest in the country, has led in a rise in out-of-state purchases by New Jersey smokers.

16-year-old charged with murder in stolen car fatality

TRENTON (AP)—The driver of the stolen car in which a 14-year-old girl was killed after police fired some 20 shots has been charged with felony murder in her death, police said.

Hunter Moore, 16, was also charged with the murder of a 14-year-old girl who was killed after police fired some 20 shots has been charged with felony murder in her death, police said.

Emmanuel Avraham, a longtime Trenton political activist who called a press conference, said that it would be "premature" for the family to talk about their suspicions until their lawyer moves the details surrounding the fatal shooting.

Excise and candidate Gibson and DiVincenzo pledge a clean campaign

NEWARK—Essex County Executive candidate Ken Gibson and Joseph DiVincenzo recently signed a pledge to conduct their campaigns in an open, just, fair and positive manner. The "pledge," which was initiated by Gibson, also affirms the two candidates will work together to oust the Republican incumbent after the primary, no matter who emerges as the winner.

"This action delivers a clear message to voters that the Democratic Party is focusing its energies on getting rid of the Republican, who sits in the Office of County Executive, Gibson said after the recent signing.

African-Americans plan hotel in Atlantic City

By g.j. matos

A deal is about to be struck to build a 500-room hotel modeled after New York's historic Theresa Hotel. When the deal goes through, it will break down one of Atlantic City's last remaining color barriers.

Plans call for two hotel towers and a parking garage on a piece of land bounded by Baltic, Arctic, Michigan and Arkansas Avenues, near the new Atlantic City Convention Center. The property is currently owned by the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority, the state agency that oversees spending of gaming revenue for housing and economic development projects in the city.

The Harlem Renaissance Development Corporation of Atlantic City, and QEM Construction and Building of Newark, plan for the non-casino hotel to be a luxury family and business accommodation, but it will capture the style, spirit and substance of the period between 1920 and 1930 of the famous Theresa Hotel and its surroundings in Uptown New York City.

In addition to the planned 500 rooms and suites, there will be three first-class restaurants, an "Office Support Center" for business travelers, and meeting and convention-quality facilities.

The objective of this hotel will be to fully integrate the establishment in Atlantic City that traditionally has a

lock on the hotel industry. The hotel will aggressively recruit and train staff within the African-American and Latino communities, and the positions will not be limited to minor jobs like waiters, maids and busboys. The intensive training that will be offered to new hires previously deprived and ignored individuals to become major players in the hospitality community and perhaps go on to owners at other establishments," the initial proposal stated.

The proposal also said, "Though black-owned, the hotel will not be a 'black hotel' in terms of clientele. This is a commercial venture that seeks to attract the broadest range of clientele available in the market segment."



Artist rendering of the proposed hotel to be built in Atlantic City by the Harlem Renaissance Development Corporation and QEM Construction.

Clinton spreads good will in Africa

By g.j. matos

The activities on President Clinton's 12-day trip to Africa were as interesting as the trip was historic. While he was there, news from home was both very bad and very good. While in Africa, he videotaped a message to the citizens of Johannesburg. Art for the memorial service of four young girls and a teacher killed in a school yard ambush.

Clinton celebrated the dismissal of the Paula Jones case, which came while he was in a sexual harassment case, which came while he was in Dakar, Senegal by chomping on an unlit cigar and beating an African drum. Speaking briefly with reporter, he said, "I think the judges opinion speaks for itself. I am immensely pleased by this trip." Then he and the first lady went shopping.

Clinton's travels in Africa led him to many significant pronouncements, activities and experiences.

On Tuesday, Clinton observed that this West African country has avoided the traps that have troubled the rest of the continent and is respected around the world for its peacekeeping and humanitarian efforts. "Our purpose is to not dominate security matters in Africa or abandon America's role in Africa's security, but instead to build on existing efforts," he said during this stop.

South African President Nelson Mandela thanked Clinton for the effort to enhance African peacekeeping skills, saying that it revealed "the generosity of the great American people."

"Africa is presenting a forward-looking image to the world," Douf said.

While in Gaborone, Botswana, President Kameile Maseke spent the last days of his office leaving Clinton. After Clinton left the country, Maseke stepped down after 18 years in power. While there, Clinton marvelled at the natural wonders of the bush and water and African environmentalists. He promised to push this year for U.S. Senate ratification of an international treaty to slow down the use of farmland around the globe. "I will do my best to get this approved as quickly as possible," Clinton promised. Also during this stop, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton met with the widow of Botswana's founding President Seretse Khama. The Khamas married in the late 1940s and were called for five years for their interracial marriage.

The fourth country on this African journey was South Africa, and perhaps not all that the President had hoped for. While South African President Nelson Mandela called Clinton a man of "black skin and strong nerves," he



President Clinton and President Mandela confer in South Africa.

An official White House photo shows Clinton at the brown marble headstone memorializing Herbert Peterson, the first African American killed in the 1976 Soweto uprising.

While in Johannesburg, Clinton dedicated a memorial center named for Ron Brown, a secretary of commerce and Clinton friend who was killed in a 1996 plane crash.

Clinton said, America's emerging trade partnership should not come at the expense of U.S. development assistance. He also said that he would urge Congress to restore African aid to its historic level—\$830 million a year.

"Trade cannot replace aid when there is still so much poverty," the President said.

The first lady planted a tree and the first lady said.

The second reorganization plan formalizes plans Governor Whitman unveiled at her budget address last month to reorganize the Department of State and turn it into the Department of State Pride. All the state's arts, cultural and historical programs will now be a part of this department.

Among the department that will be part of the consolidation are: The New Jersey Historic Trust, The Public Broadcast Authority (NBN), and the Division of Travel and Tourism.

"The Governor's plan will allow us to focus more intently on celebrating New Jersey's rich arts, culture and history. It will enable us to more fully utilize our resources and enhance the quality of life for those who live, work or visit the Garden State," said Secretary of State L. Ron R. Hoke.

Stanley/Payne bill would halt proposed education aid cuts

TRENTON—Essex County Assemblyman Craig Stanley and William Payne announced that they have introduced legislation to restrict \$33 million in education aid that Governor Whitman has proposed cutting from 19 large urban school districts under the new state budget. New Jersey and Irvington would be among the beneficiaries.

The Stanley/Payne measure would direct the Whitman administration to provide all the \$246 million in "parity aid" that state education officials originally projected, and distribution to New Jersey's 28 special needs districts to help offset operating costs in the 1997-98 school year.

Parity aid was devised to enable the state to comply with a state Supreme Court order requiring per-pupil spending levels in the state's poorest districts to be increased to the levels of the state's richest districts. In preparing the Governor's annual budget proposal for the Legislature, the state Department of Education recalculated its parity aid projections and cut the amount of funding that was projected last year by \$32.9 million. Newark and Irvington are among the 19 districts.

These school districts should not be forced to endure hardship and inconvenience because of some bad arithmetic by the state Education Department," said Stanley (D-Irvington), a member of the Assembly Education Committee.

"The state should get out of the business of making empty promises and get back in the business of providing the financial resources these school districts need to fulfill their missions of teaching and nurturing our children."

"To take money away from these

school districts in the name of fiscal recalculations is tantamount to education deprivation for the children who stand to benefit from this aid," said Payne (D-Newark), a member of the Assembly Appropriations Committee. "Programs and services that would enhance the quality of education have already been put into place when the funding was proposed. Without our bill, these programs may be ripped away from our students."

Stanley and Payne said the funding calculation system can leave school districts, like Newark and Irvington, in the lurch. Newark would stand to recoup \$4,713,054 in state aid restored if the school and Irvington would have \$2,371,521 in state aid restored if the situation were rectified as the assembly's bill requires.

Other North Jersey communities that would benefit from the bill include East Orange, Jersey City, Elizabeth and Passaic.

The bill, however, would not provide aid carte-blanc to school districts that are shored up as a result of aid recalculations. Under the measure, school districts seeking to recoup the lost aid must demonstrate to the Commissioner of Education that the aid reduction would be unfair because of "insufficient appropriation balances" and "contractual commitments."

Districts also could get back the aid if they can demonstrate that the cost of new programs and services which have been implemented pursuant to the district's originally approved spending plan cannot be reduced or eliminated without adverse consequences to the district's education programs and student achievement. The Stanley/Payne measure has 13 co-sponsors and shares bi-partisan support.

Murder of Plainfield business woman causes concern

PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Mayor Al Williams issued a statement concerning the murder of businesswoman Nam Hee Lee, 49, was the owner of Lee's Shoes on the corner East Front Street and Washington Avenue in Plainfield. On Wednesday, April 1, 1998, at approximately 12:05 p.m., the Plainfield Police Division received a call that there was a possible problem inside Lee's Shoe Store located at 200 E. Front Street. The caller had gone inside the store and noticed some blood on the floor, and no one to tend to customers.

Responding units located Lee in the rear of the store, unconscious and bleeding from the head.

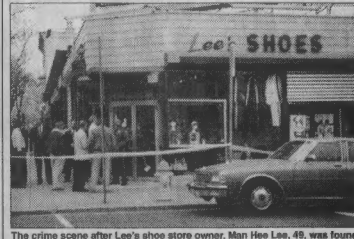
Emergency Medical Personnel from Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center (Mercy Nine) were immediately dispatched, however the victim, Mrs. Lee was pronounced dead at the scene. An autopsy performed later at the Office of the State Medical Examiner's Office that afternoon determined that the victim was shot once in the head with a small caliber weapon.

"This was a well-known, popular

merchant whose loss will definitely be felt here," said Plainfield Police Chief John Driscoll, adding that Mrs. Lee's husband had come to the country as an immigrant and had worked up to 12 hours a day, inside the store for more than 20 years.

Mayor Williams' statement read in part: "I wish to express our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Mrs. Nam Hee Lee. This tragic event saddens and angers our whole community. I want to assure you that our Police Division will not rest until the perpetrator or perpetrators have been brought to justice. We are seeking the broadest level of support and cooperation from law-enforcement agencies to solve this heinous crime."

The police are asking anyone who may have seen or heard anything in the morning of Wednesday, April 1, or who may have noticed anything out of the ordinary around the store, to contact the Plainfield Police Detective Bureau at 908-753-3048. Additionally, the county's CrimeStopper Program is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 in the case.



The crime scene after Lee's shoe store owner, Man Hee Lee, 49, was found dead in her store, on April 1.

Photo by Kai Niyuru

Reorganization takes place in two state departments

By g.j. matos

TRENTON—The Department of Community Affairs and the Department of State will receive new functions under reorganization plans recently filed in the Legislature by Governor Christine Whitman. The reorganizations and function shifts are designed to consolidate and streamline various functions within the two agencies.

The first plan will consolidate local development and planning programs and certain safety inspection functions in the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Programs now a part of the DCA include the New Jersey Redevelopment Authority, which was originally part of the Department of Commerce. This plan also shifts the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment under the supervision of the Redevelopment Authority.

The Office of State Planning, formerly of the Department of Treasury, will also go to the Department of Community Affairs. This function will enable the DCA, which is the state's primary link to municipal governments, to more effectively implement the State Plan through better targeting, planning and increased communication with municipal officials.

The reorganization also includes the transfer of certain functions related to the safe construction and maintenance of buildings that were previously part of the Departments of Labor and Treasury, to eliminate a duplication of effort.

"This reorganization will ensure more effective and intelligent use of state resources in the redevelopment of our cities and neighborhoods, and it will help pave the way for the preservation of vital open space in the Garden State," Governor Whitman said.

The second reorganization plan formalizes plans Governor Whitman unveiled at her budget address last month to reorganize the Department of State and turn it into the Department of State Pride. All the state's arts, cultural and historical programs will now be a part of this department.

Among the department that will be part of the consolidation are: The New Jersey Historic Trust, The Public Broadcast Authority (NBN), and the Division of Travel and Tourism.

"The Governor's plan will allow us to focus more intently on celebrating New Jersey's rich arts, culture and history. It will enable us to more fully utilize our resources and enhance the quality of life for those who live, work or visit the Garden State," said Secretary of State L. Ron R. Hoke.

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NATIONAL BRIEFS

Don King delivers knock out punch to British promoter

DEERFIELD BEACH, FLA.—Boxing promoter Don King said today that he is gratified by the ruling Thursday in the British High Court in London that British boxing promoter Frank Warren is in "breach of the duties owed to Don King Productions" following the dissolution of a four-year partnership between the two fight promoters. The Court ruled that, contrary to Mr. Warren's claims, Don King Productions, Inc. is entitled to a share in all the profits generated by agreements with fighters struck during the years of the partnership, despite its recent dissolution. King said that he originally developed a partnership with Warren to realize the global potential of the best British and European boxers. "However," said King, "Frank Warren was more interested in himself than his boxers. Some of the talented boxers never got a fair shake and never had a chance to develop their full potential."

Daughter of Martin Luther King urges people to look beyond color

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—The youngest daughter of Martin Luther King Jr. said people should let the color of their skin be a barrier for developing strong relationships. "We have to really behind each other," the Rev. Bernice King told about 350 people recently at Austin Peay State University. "We have to explore each other's worlds." Ms. King, the youngest daughter of the late civil rights leader, was the guest speaker at APSU's COMMUNITY Celebration. She said it's OK for people to take pride in their ancestry, as long as they don't let it get in the way of unity. "I want you to see my color, and I'm sure you want me to see your color and appreciate your heritage. I want that 'who you are,' Ms. King said. "To be colorblind means to ignore all of that."

The recent APSU event is among similar activities across the state and nationally commemorating the April 4, 1968, assassination of Martin Luther King.

His confessed killer, 70-year-old James Earl Ray, is currently serving a 99-year sentence for the shooting.

Thousands gather for Jericho '98 march

NEW YORK—Some 5,000 people from all over the country came together in Washington, DC recently to demand recognition and amnesty for prisoners in the United States. The Jericho '98 kickoff march was termed a success by the National Logistic Coordinator/Jericho, Her-man Ferguson. "Everything worked out to our expectations," he said. "The racial and geographic diversity of those attending the march makes me feel that we have the makings of a movement against the prison-industrial complex. Now the question of political prisoner in America is out in the open."

Safiya Bukhari, Jericho National Coordinator, said, "One of the most outstanding parts of the Jericho '98 march was the fact that it was predominantly attended by the youth. The issue of political prisoner is not hard to grasp."

Ferguson said one of the next steps in the campaign is to make the concern for political prisoners known to elected officials. "With the support we have in various pockets of the country," he said, "We can target politicians and ask 'What is your position on this issue?'"

Bukhari noted that while most politicians are reluctant to take a stand on this issue, especially at election time, Governor Whitman has no problem with calling for the extradition of escaped political prisoner Assata Shakur.

Commission Investigates Alleged Plot To Overthrow Mandela Government

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (PANA)—President Nelson Mandela has called for the appointment of an urgent judicial inquiry into a military intelligence report claiming there is a conspiracy to overthrow his government. The report, which alleges the disgruntled former members of Umkhonto we Sizwe, the ruling African National Congress' armed wing, including foreign affairs director Robert McBride, was arrested in Mozambique for arms smuggling earlier last month, are behind the alleged coup attempt.

At the time of McBride's arrest, media reports, citing security sources, alleged that a military intelligence report gave details of a plot to oust the government and McBride was said to have been linked to the investigation. McBride said he had appointed the commission to look into a report which he received from the South African National Defense Force on organized activities with the aim to overthrow the government.

By David Denison

WASHINGTON—When President William Clinton embarked on the trip to Africa he made history. A history that would have had to vote that no U.S. President in the 20th century had made such an extensive visit to the world's largest continent, were it not for the fact that Clinton's plans called for a delegation of congressional, business and government leaders to accompany him on his visit to six African countries. The President's trip-to-date has been full of apologies and regrets as he recounted the United States role in African slavery including turning to ruthless dictators as allies during the

Cold War. Many African-American leaders speculated that the president would offer an apology for slavery in the United States, but it has become clear that no such apology would be forthcoming. Which has given rise among publishers if an apology to The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA)—"The Black Press of America"—would be forthcoming when he returns home.

NNPA President Dorothy R. Leavelle reports that her office has been inundated by calls from members of NNPA, inquiring if NNPA had been invited to accompany the President on this historic trip. Mrs. Leavelle said she

has had to tell her membership that obviously there must have been an error made by those who planned the trip in the failure to contact NNPA to participate in the African trip. However, she noted that a press release from the Democratic National Committee was received by most NNPA newspapers that stated that many news organizations that serve the African-American community could not afford the cost of traveling with the President.

It is not clear if NNPA is one of the "news organizations" alluded to in the news release. The statement she referred to said, "In a pre-trip media briefing, White House Press Secretary Michael McCurry said, 'It breaks my heart' that

many news organizations that primarily serve the African American community could not afford the considerable cost of traveling with the President. African American press pile to cover the cost include a reporter and a photographers from Jet Magazine and syndicated radio host Tom Joyner, who will also be doing some special broadcasts of his daily shows from South Africa."

Ms. Leavelle said in all preclude NNPA duty were not referring to NNPA because NNPA was not contacted at all and therefore could not have indicated that the considerable cost of traveling with the President would preclude NNPA from having a representative or representatives on the trip.

Andrew Young receives Booth Award



Andrew Young

ALEXANDRIA, VA—The Ballington and Maude Booth Award for Distinguished Service to Humanity will be presented to former Ambassador Andrew Young. Volunteers of America will honor Young with this award in Washington on April 16 at their "Century of Miracles" gala. Long time humanitarian and president of the Children's Defense Fund, Marian Wright Edelman will present this honor. Writer and poet Maya Angelou will give a video tribute.

In 1954, Volunteers of America established the Ballington and Maude Booth Award in honor of its founders. The highest honor Volunteers of America is given annually to an individual or couple who follow in the Booth' footsteps and demonstrate their philanthropic spirit aside from noteworthy professional or political career of specific deeds.

John Henrik Clarke named 'Incapacitated' by his children

By Herb Boyd
Special to the NNPA from the Amsterdam News

Last month, 32-year-old Nzingha Clarke, daughter of esteemed scholar Dr. John Henrik Clarke, filed a petition in the Supreme Court of the State of New York for the appointment of a personal needs and property management guardian for her father. Her application charges that Clarke is an "alleged incapacitated person."

What is baffling about the allegation is that Clarke is married and, according to several respondents, doing quite well, despite a continuing illness that requires three weekly visits to a dialysis treatment center.

"My father married Sybil Williams in the spring of 1997," the petition reads. "She removed him to her apartment after his last hospital stay. My father, two months before his marriage, told his research assistant he had no intention of marrying Sybil Williams, who he had casually known for a number of years. He also told me this a year or so earlier."

The petition also asserts that Williams-Clarke has abused and mistreated Clarke, who is blind, holds him under "house arrest," has alienated him from his family and friends and has kept him from his library and the continuation of his research and writing. Clarke, who turned 83 in January and is considered by most scholars as the nation's preeminent African-American historian, refutes all the charges brought by his children. "I am not under house arrest," he said firmly. "Nor am I being mistreated by my wife. I am getting about the best attention I can get given the circumstances."

When asked to explain his children's behavior, he said, "I don't understand it at all. 'A number of close associates and a home care attendant have provided information that challenges the charges in the petition. 'For the last year I have been here with Dr. Clarke five hours a day, five days a week and I have never witnessed any abuse or mistreatment from Sybil to Dr. Clarke,' an attendant said on condition of anonymity. "Sybil has been a most loyal and devoted wife and I have no idea why the children would say what they are saying."

Clarke's alleged incapacitation is also contradicted by several public appearances last month, particularly his presence at the Victorian Theatre for a special tribute by the United African Movement; an exhausting trip to Alabama and a lecture at the College of New Rochelle.

"John is doing fine," said Williams-Clarke. "Nzingha says her father was only in the hospital one time, but I have the discharges to show he was there five times and she rarely visited him on these occasions."

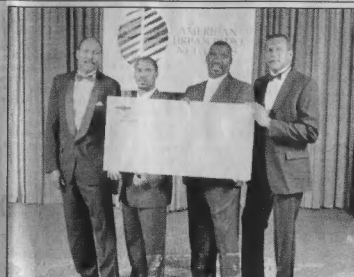
"According to the evaluator assigned to the case by the court," Williams-Clarke explained, "she concluded that the petition is nothing but a bunch of lies."

Several calls were made to the office of the evaluator but there was no response at press time. Attempts were also made to reach Nzingha Clarke, who promised to return our call but failed to do so. However, her brother Sonni, was reached at his Harlem home and said he shared his sister's concern about their father's condition and about the impact of "airing the family's affairs."

"All of this is quite disturbing for John, but he's a strong man and he will survive this feud," Williams-Clarke said. "I want the public to know that John's books are in safe keeping, he is gradually recovering from all the ailments and he will soon be doing what he has always done, serve the people."

The 24th Annual AURN Black College All-American awards

ATLANTA—The American Urban Radio Networks' (AURN) 24th annual Black College All-American Team members were recognized recently in Atlanta, Georgia. Legendary coach Eddie Robinson was the keynote speaker at the event. One of the honorees was Doug Williams, second from left, of Florida A&M, was named the Doug Williams Offensive Player-of-the Year. With him are AURN's Jack Bryant, Doug Williams and Tony Prince of Chevrolet Motor Company.



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BUSINESS CALENDAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

NEWARK—A panel discussion on Investments and Construction Management Services in Real Estate will be held at 8 a.m. at the Marriott at Newark Airport. For more info, call 732-339-6100.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

JAMAICA—The National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners has selected the Renaissance Jamaica Grande Resort for the Spring '98 conference which will be held through the 15th. For more info, call 876-742-2201.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14

PLAINFIELD—An informal workshop on "Funding Opportunities for Small Business" will be held from 9 a.m. to noon at the United National Community Education Center. For more info, call 908-756-5000, ext. 2366.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

PLAINFIELD—Learn about "Financial Statements" from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Entrepreneur Training Institute at Plainfield's Union County College Campus. For more info, call 908-527-2946.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

PLAINFIELD—A workshop on "Setting Lifetime Goals the quick and easy way" will be held from 10 a.m. to noon at the United National Community Center. For more info, call 908-756-5000, ext. 2366.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

HOLMDEL—A MBE/WBE Business Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Robert B. Meyer Center. For more info, call 973-491-8060.

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

NEWARK—A free workshop "Marketing and Advertising Your Business" will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Newark Airport. For more info, call 973-911-4273.

NEW YORK—A free conference, The Diversity and The Capital Markets, will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the World Trade Center. To register, call 212-912-9249.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

SOMERVILLE—An "Under the Dome" seminar will take place at the County Administrative Bldg. From 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. For more info, call 908-737-1552.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

MOUNTAINDALE—The 26th Annual Founders' Day Luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the L'Affaire Restaurant.

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

EAST RUTHERFORD—Registration is free to attend the NJNY Transportation Marketplace at the "Shoreland Meadows Hotel. For more info, call 201-496-6500.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

PLAINFIELD—A business writing workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the United National Community Center. For more info, call 908-756-5000, ext. 2366.

New Jersey joins FTC in Operation Eraser

NEWARK—New Jersey and the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") in connection with a national sweep on credit "repair" organizations, are using a Bergen County company, alleging that the multimillion dollar telemarketer deceived consumers nationwide while selling its credit "repair" and advance fee loan services. Attorney General Peter Verrino and New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs Director Mark S. Hunter announced today.

New Jersey and the Federal Trade Commission are co-plaintiffs in a 21-count complaint against National Credit Management Group (NCMG), alleging the company used deceptive sales tactics and advertisements that violated the federal Credit Repair Organizations Act (CROA) and the Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse Prevention Act ("Telemarketing Act"), as well as New Jersey's Consumer Fraud Act. A hearing has been scheduled for March 20.

The suit also names NCMG's chief executive officer and president, Glen Buzzetti, and its vice president and chief financial officer, Joseph Ferguson, as defendants. NCMG, which also does business as J-MCO-YES-CREDIT, has a mailing address of 177 Main St., Suite 210, Fort Lee and corporate headquarters in Edgewater.

The New Jersey and FTC suit is part of an FTC-led sweep, dubbed "Operation Eraser" which also involves the cooperative efforts of 12 other states. In addition to NCMG, several other credit "repair" agencies throughout the United States have been sued as part of the sweep.

Exports stress trade and investment with Africa

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Recently more than 200 leaders in business, banking and investment will convene in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to participate in The Addis Forum on Trade and Investment in Africa. They included: former New York mayor, David Dinkins; Dorothy Leavelle, president of the National Newspaper Publishers Association; Melvin Foote, executive director of the Constitution for Africa; and Winston Antonio Vernon Jordan.

During a recent press briefing at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., a distinguished panel of Africa specialists discussed the upcoming forum and examined the U.S. trade and investment with Africa, current White

House initiatives and pending legislation designed to increase commerce with the continent.

Panelists included Irvin Hicks, U.S. former U.S. Ambassador to Ethiopia and U.S. Chair of The Addis Forum; Charles Crocker, former Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs and director of the Corporate Council on Africa; Ahmed Ould-Abdalla, executive secretary of the Global Coalition for Africa; and Charles Williams, chief of staff for Rep. Jim McDermott (D-Wash.).

Inspired by development activities in many African states, The Addis Forum sought to draw attention to the economic potential and invest-

ment opportunities that exist in Africa. "Only 1.5 percent of all global investment capital reaches Africa," said Ambassador Hicks. "Through The Addis Forum, we hope to promote and enhance a higher level of dialogue between the international investment community, and entrepreneurs and African governments, people and economies." The forum coincided with a series of meetings held in Ethiopia between government, business leaders and a delegation led by the president of the World Bank.

According to Crocker, such a conference would have been unthinkable 10 years ago. "The forum is an important signal of the changes occurring in Africa. The world of change is the growing interest in business decision makers from North America, Europe, the Middle East and Asian nations in Africa's last frontier of the emerging markets."

The challenge for Africa, said Ambassador Ould-Abdalla, is to increase both investment and compe-

tion since 80 percent of foreign investments in Africa are from France and Britain. He also stressed that Africa's citizens and leaders want partnerships, not charity, from the international community.

According to Mr. Williams, the African Growth and Opportunity Act, if passed, will mark the first major change in the U.S.-Africa trade relationship in 40 years. Mr. Williams, who helped design the legislation, indicated that the measure now before Congress will help redefine the trade relationship by establishing a U.S.-Africa Economic Forum and a U.S.-Africa Free Trade Area, and by creating equity and infrastructure funds.

Forum sponsors include MIDROC, ITI, TITR, Interim, Camp, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, Occidental Petroleum, Gulf International Bank, International Pepsi-Cola Bottler Investments, Corporate Council on Africa and the U.S. - Saudi Arabian Business Council.

Governor files plan for one-stop shopping for business

TRENTON, N.J.—Christie Whitman today filed with the Legislature an executive reorganization plan to make it easier to do business in New Jersey by allowing businesses in the state to make their tax, unemployment, and disability payments with one check instead of three. The plan will improve the state's ability to collect revenue.

"States are competing fiercely for jobs and business, not just here at home, but abroad as well," said Gov. Whitman, who announced her one-stop shopping for business plan in her budget address. "Making it easier for businesses to operate in New Jersey is something we must do. It's something we must do."

Specifically, the reorganization transfers from the Department of Labor to the Division of Revenue in the Department of Treasury the responsibility for receiving reports,

billings and correspondence, remittance processing and data entry for the Unemployment Insurance Tax, State Disability Benefits Tax, Second Injury Fund, Temporary Disability Insurance Assessment, CMRS Assessments (Catastrophic Illness in Children, Worker and Community Right to Know, Pollution Prevention Control), Health Care Subsidy and Workforce Development Partnership programs.

In addition to improving services to the business community and improving the state's ability to collect revenue, the consolidation will eliminate duplication of effort in the area of receipts processing.

The Governor's one-stop shopping for business plan will also allow businesses to register with just one department. The plan shifts the Division of Commercial Recording from the Department of State into the Department of Treasury.

The book Texaco didn't want published

"Texaco's Changing. It was almost a miracle. I could almost hear it in my sleep," says Bari-Ellen Roberts of the advice she was given while she was being courted for a senior level finance position at the nation's fourth largest oil company. Unfortunately, Texaco was not changing and her decision to join the company was in retrospect a momentous one. Today, she is famous as the lead plaintiff in Roberts vs. Texaco, the historic

agenda for the struggle for equal rights in the coming century. It's a must read for all of us who deeply care about justice and discrimination in the workplace."

This book reaches beyond the headlines to tell what it was like for Roberts, and for many of her associates, to be referred to on the infamously racist "Black Jelly" head, stuck to the bottom of the bag. Career woman, daughter, mother and friend, Roberts shows, on the eve of the trial of Richard Landwell, the man who secretly taped and then released the damning conversations, how the atmosphere accepted, if not fostered, at Texaco affected every area of her life.

If You Can't Make Head Or Tail Of The New Taxpayer Relief Act...



The new "tax-free" Roth IRA opens up new possibilities in planning for your retirement, but there are restrictions you should learn more about.

The main appeal of the Roth IRA is the possibility of receiving tax-free earnings, and the ability to convert traditional IRAs to Roth IRAs in 1998 under special income inclusion rules. While there may be real opportunities, the new federal tax law adds to the complexity of planning for your financial future.

Fortunately, MeLife can help you make sense of it. By walking through the complications and pointing out ways you can update your investment portfolio and retirement plans.

Get MeLife's newest free Life Advice brochure, Your Planning Opportunities Under The 1997 Tax Law. It gives you an overview in layman's terms you can understand. Simply contact me at:

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*Distributions from ROTH IRAs are free from Federal income tax and IRS penalty if certain requirements are met; consult with your tax advisor. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal.

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Stop 100
UMCO:
1000 Somerset Avenue
Retail Shopping Center, Route 28

Deposits FDIC insured to \$100,000

Religion Calendar

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

WAYNE—The Sixth Annual "Gospel Music Awards Dinner" will be held in the Wayne minor at 7:30 p.m. For more info, call 201-523-1777.

ASBURY PARK—Maundy Thursday service will be held at 7:30 p.m. at The Cathedral Assembly by the Shore. For more info, call 732-826-5293.

PERTH AMBOY—Maundy Thursday service will be held at 7:30 p.m. at The Cathedral-Second Baptist Church. For more info, call 732-826-5293.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

ASBURY PARK—Good Friday service will be held at 7:30 p.m. at The Cathedral Assembly by the Shore. For more info, call 732-826-5293.

PERTH AMBOY—Good Friday service will be held at 7:30 p.m. at The Cathedral-Second Baptist Church. For more info, call 732-826-5293.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

PERTH AMBOY—Resurrection Sunday: a sunrise worship and Holy Communion will be held at 8 a.m. at The Cathedral-Second Baptist Church. For more info, call 732-826-5293.

ASBURY PARK—A festive Easter worship celebration will be held at 2 p.m. at The Cathedral Assembly by the Shore. For more info, call 732-826-5293.

MONDAY, APRIL 13

NEWARK—A "Back to God" crusade revival will be held at the Trinity Baptist Church through April 17th, beginning at 7:15 p.m. For more info, call 973-486-2342.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

EDISON—Mount Olive Church celebrates its twentieth anniversary of Rev. Nicholas as pastor at the First Ministry, Rt. 27, 6 p.m. For more info, call 908-754-3539.

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By Junious Ricardo Stanton

"I had gone to a fine university and learned to read some of the most learned books in it. But I had not learned the great truth that God never leaves us," Jesse Owens.

Many of us get so conditioned to looking at life from a woman's eye view (to a woman, a pebble appears like a boulder and a trickle of water like a raging stream) that we forget what Olympic star Jesse Owens called the "great truth" — God never leaves us. The reality of the indwelling and sustaining presence of God is an ancient, yet obscured truth. The most ignored message in the Christian Bible is found in Luke 17:20-21. The Master admonished: "The Kingdom of God is within you."

Our unawareness of our divine potential is the source of much fear, confusion, stumbling, pain and suffering in our lives. But it is the God Force or animating life force in which we live, move and have our being.

Obituary

David Lane II



David Lane II son of David and Elaine was born on March 22, 1979 in Summit, New Jersey. He went home to find peace with the Lord on Saturday, March 14, 1998.

Most of David's Elementary Education was received at Clark School in East Orange. He graduated from Mount Vernon Elementary in Newark. David attended Essex Catholic and Irvington High Schools. He completed his education by receiving a State High School Diploma.

David attended Ebenezer Baptist Church which was a member of the Junior

Usher Board, Sunday School Vacation Bible School and the YES/AM. At age 14, David decided to accept Christ and became a member of Imani Baptist Church of Christ in East Orange. He was also an active member of the Junior Usher Board.

During his life David was an active member in several community organizations. As a youngster he played baseball for the Irvington Little League. He also had an avid love for music.

David was a member of Boy Scouts of America Troop 255 where he had achieved the level of Life Scout and was also a member of Delta Ten Lift, North Jersey Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

David was greatly missed by his family and friends. He leaves to cherish his memory, his loving and devoted parents David Lane and Elaine Pettigrew Lane; sisters Patricia Lane Hughes, Gail Lane and David Lane; grandmother, Sarah Pettigrew; aunts, Magnolia Lane Mildred Juvinil, Donella Davis and Sandra Palonen; uncles, John Lane, Harold Davis and Peter Palonen; one brother-in-law, Michael Hughes; Michelle Elaine Saucedo, nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of other relatives and friends.

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while they are yet speaking. I will hear. (Isaiah 65:24). Does this divinity mean we are immune from difficulties, trials and obstacles? Of course not. They are an integral component of the totality of life. What it means is that our challenges should not dismay, confound, overwhelm or destroy us.

In the physical realm there is a law that states, "For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction." So we should not be upset when we encounter resistance and obstacles to our plans, our goals and the things we want to accomplish in life. For centuries man felt constrained by gravity until the laws of aerodynamics were discerned. Now we know we can counter the impact of gravity by using thrust and we can counter wind resistance by using flaps and rudders to steer an aircraft. We fly not just by jet propulsion, but by manipulating and using atmospheric pressure and wind resistance! So it is with our lives. Problems should not be fatal, troubles should not crush us. As long

as we are mindful that God never leaves us, all is well.

Does that mean we won't have pain and heartache in our lives? No. There will always be disappointment and setbacks. The only way to avoid them is not to attempt anything meaningful or significant. Resistance and failures are not fatal. They provide lessons and opportunities to do better. Even during the bleakest times, we should not forget that God is ever present. We have access to omniscience, all-knowing intelligence in the form of intuition. Intuition is never wrong. Even when it seems wacky, it is correct. Insights come from God. They are the answers to life's pressing problems. They come like a bolt out of the blue. That is your deeper consciousness at work, solving your problems. It is the response of our higher consciousness to a problem or situation to which we need answers. Each of us then should learn the great lesson like Jesse Owens, that we are never alone.

Gospel Music Awards Dinner, April 9

PATERSON—The Sixth Annual "Gospel Music Awards Dinner," sponsored by J&J Productions of Paterson, will be held at the Wayne Manor Hotel, 7:30 Thursday, April 9.

Christian comedian Derrick Fox, of Comic Relief and "Showtime at the Apollo," will host the event which features Lisa Page, lead singer for the group Witness, K&K Mime, the Uplifters and the Garden State Choral Chapter.

Jerry Wimberly, J&J Co-Founder/President, said, "We look forward to this year's dinner. The night is going to be an exhilarating evening of fellowship, good food, great music and praising God."

Tickets for the black tie affair are \$50 before the day of the event and \$60 at the door. For more information, please call 973-345-6653.



James Williams, and Jerry Wimberly, founders of J&J Productions.

Emergency disaster Services of The Salvation Army

NEW JERSEY—The Salvation Army has provided immediate and practical relief to individuals in physical, emotional and spiritual distress since its founding in London, England in 1865. The motivation for service was the compelling instructions of the founder William Booth to "do something" when they became aware that hundreds of London's poor were sleeping under bridges, with no proper shelter from severe winter weather. This action launched the international, social and human services programs including disaster relief of The Salvation Army. Today, volunteers, soldiers and officers of the Salvation Army continue to "do something" with a similar sense of urgency.

The Salvation Army's organizational structure in the United States enables it to respond efficiently and effectively in the event of emergencies, civil disorder and disasters.

The red shield of The Salvation Army remains a beacon of hope, safety, practical assistance and spiritual comfort of individuals and families experiencing trauma and suffering as a result of civil disorder or natural disaster. Serving independently in emergencies or cooperatively in major disasters with other private and public disaster relief organizations. The Salvation Army will honor its long tradition of "service in the time of need, at the point of need in the name of Jesus Christ."

In New Jersey, The Emergency Disaster Services has been involved in assisting locally at numerous structure fires, forest fires, downed aircraft, hazardous material emergencies, civic events and participation in frequent drills and exercises. Relief efforts include the provision of food, shelter, clothing and other basic necessities to assist families in overcoming the immediate crisis.

For more information about the Disaster Services Program, or how to become a volunteer, call 908-851-9300.

To make a donation, send checks to the Salvation Army—Emergency Disaster Series, P.O. Box 3170 Union, NJ 07083.

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Preliminary auditions will be held at a number of churches throughout the Tri-State area during May 1998. The final audition will be held May 30, 1998 and the Gala Celebration will take place on June 13, 1998. The public is invited to attend all events.

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Church or School _____ Name of Contact Person _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____

County _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone No. (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

Entry form must be postmarked by 4/24/98

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CITY NEWS

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Next time think before you take your money outside your community.

Find businesses that value your dollars in

CITY NEWS

Redefining who we are

F. Lee Ilesse

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

JERSEY CITY—A spring health fair will be held through April 9th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the multipurpose room of the Student Union Building. For more info, call 201-200-3456.

ELIZABETH—Testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases for men is now available at Planned Parenthood. For an appointment, call 908-551-5384.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

PLAINFIELD—The next board meeting of the American Red Cross will be held at 8 p.m. at the American Red Cross at Plainfield Area Chapter. For more info, call 908-775-6414.

PLAINFIELD—A water exercise will be held for Senior Citizens from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the YM-CAY. Bring your own towel. For more info, call 908-753-3506.

PLAINFIELD—Blood pressure readings will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Plainfield Area Chapter. For more info, call 908-753-3506.

NEW BRUNSWICK—A Larazee/Preparation for Children course will be held at 7:15 p.m. through 9 p.m. at the YM-CAY. For more info, call 732-937-8820.

NEW BRUNSWICK—A Pediatric Asthma Support Group will be held the 2nd Thursday, every other month at 7 p.m. in the Medical Education Building. For more info, call 732-235-7999.

New Jerseyans urged to learn about Hepatitis C

CEDAR GROVE—The American Liver Foundation urges all New Jerseyans to learn more about Hepatitis C and consult your physician if you are at risk.

According to Alan Brownstein, President of the American Liver Foundation, the general public must get the message on Hepatitis C. "This message is that if there is any possibility of exposure to Hepatitis C infection, you must get tested. Hepatitis C Awareness Month needs to be a wakeup call to New Jersey because 144,000 people in this state have Hepatitis C and most don't know it," said Brownstein.

Hepatitis C is a chronic disease, often symptomless blood-borne virus that is one of the major causes of all liver disease. It is currently estimated that about four million Americans are infected with the virus which, if left untreated, can result in serious and sometimes fatal liver disease.

The disease is transmitted through the blood, so those at risk include people who have received blood transfusions before 1992, women who received blood during cesarean section operations (before 1992), injection drug users, and those with multiple sex partners. There is also the potential risk of transmission through intranasal cocaine use and through body piercing or tattoos. Additionally, exposure may come from needle stick injuries, occupational exposure to blood or blood products and long-term hemodialysis.

Facts about Hepatitis C

The hepatitis C virus is a largely symptomless, blood-borne virus which slowly attacks the liver and causes such liver diseases as cirrhosis and cancer of the liver. Over four million Americans are currently infected with chronic viral hepatitis C.

Some 10,000 persons die each year due to hepatitis C. The death rate is expected to triple in the next 10 to 20 years.

Hepatitis C is the leading cause of liver transplantation in the United States and thereby factors into the shortage of health organs available for transplantation.

The death rate from hepatitis C in the United States is now exceed that from HIV.

"Twisting carriers of the hepatitis C virus may unintentionally endanger themselves and infect others through otherwise harmless behaviors."

"Treatment of the hepatitis C virus is most efficacious if the virus is caught before advanced liver disease occurs. Interferon A therapy is the only FDA approved treatment. Other therapeutic treatments and combination therapies are currently under review by the FDA."

It is estimated that approximately 14,000 New Jersey residents are infected with the hepatitis C virus; however, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention does not require the state to report chronic hepatitis C infection, and, therefore, the true extent of hepatitis C infection in New Jersey is unknown.

Converted lives prevent heart disease

By Janet McConaughy

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Their families had the history of hypertension and coronary artery disease so common among blacks. But 204 blacks who moved to Israel and converted to low-fat, low-salt food, no smoking, and regular exercise turned that around.

Only six percent had high blood pressure—a condition found in 30 percent of all blacks in this country. And while half of all black women and 32 percent of all black men in this country are obese, that was true of less than 5 percent in the African Hebrew Israelite community.

The study by doctors at universities in Nashville, Tenn., is another piece in the puzzle of whether heredity or environment contributes more to the high hypertension rate among blacks in this country.

"This study comes as close as we have ever been able to come to separating genes from lifestyle," said Dr. Michele Hamilton, a cardiologist at the

CULA Medical Center. She said she doesn't think there's any question that genetic tendencies combine with diet, smoking, obesity and other "lifestyle features" to make blacks more likely than whites to develop high blood pressure.

"But the good news is, even for African-Americans who may have a genetic predisposition, you may well be able to beat that risk by making favorable life changes," she said.

Researchers from Waverly Belmont Medical Center, Meharry Medical College and Vanderbilt University went to Israel to study the community, which includes blacks from all parts of the United States. It was presented Friday in a poster session of the Society for Behavioral Research, which is meeting in New Orleans.

The group, considered by many in Israel as a cult, lives on a communal compound and by extremely strict religious rules, following Ben Ami Ben Yissel, who they believe is the messiah.

They were extremely conversational when they arrived in Israel, saying they were the real Jews.

They live in Dimona, in the Negev region of southern Israel, about 25 miles from Beer Sheva.

Spokesman Ahmadiel Ben Yehuda, in New Orleans to speak to the African Heritage Studies Association, said the group is now about 3,000 strong.

It was founded by 332 blacks who left this country in 1967 and came to Israel in the early 1970s.

Those founders were the focus of this study. The researchers said 223 agreed to participate, and 204 met the criteria: born in the United States and not pregnant.

They were from all over the country, and 34 percent of them said their families had a history of heart disease, indicating that they are, genetically, a good cross-section of black America, said David G. Schlundt of Vanderbilt, who presented the study.

But their lifestyles are far different

than most Americans, black or white. In 1968, they struck red meat from their diet. In 1971, the year they came to Israel, they turned to a completely vegan diet, eliminating poultry, fish and animal products such as milk or cheese.

Since 1973, the community has strongly encouraged exercise at least three days a week, and in 1980 it eliminated salt from the kitchen every other day, on top of a general rule that people shouldn't salt food once it came out of the kitchen.

The only major change to their diet since is one "raw week," in which all food is uncooked, every three months. That began in 1984.

The group's 30 years of healthy living has effectively prevented obesity and hypertension, and cholesterol levels also were low, the researchers said. These changes in lifestyle might prevent chronic disease in American blacks but would be hard to achieve without the unifying power of community and spirituality, he said.

Breast and cervical cancer screening grant awarded

PLAINFIELD—Mayor Al McWilliams announced the city's Health Division has received a \$90,000 grant for its mobile breast and cervical cancer screening program from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services for the current year.

Plainfield Health Officer Ruby Hodge says that 260 women were screened by the program in the previous 90-day period. "This is a life-saving service," says Mrs. Hodge, "and women, especially those over 50, are encouraged to take advantage of the program." Twenty-seven of those screened the previous period benefited from early cancer detection. The screenings are free.

The Plainfield Health Division is the lead agency in a county wide pro-

gram to provide women with free screening for breast and cervical cancer. The program especially provides a safety net for uninsured and under-insured women.

Cervical cancer rates among minority women are on the rise, with death rates twice as high as among the general population, according to information from the State Department of Health.

"Early detection is key in combating these types of cancer," said Mayor McWilliams, "and I am proud that Plainfield is taking the lead in protecting the health of women in our community."

For information about the times and locations of the free screenings, call the Plainfield Health Division Appointment Line at 908-226-4200.



Chf Paul Kelly of Sodexo Food Corporation at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center demonstrates the value of heart-healthy cooking while participants taste Mr. Kelly's low-fat creations.

Hearty hearts linked to healthy diet

NEWARK—Heart and blood vessel diseases are the number one causes of death in the United States. Each year, more than 2,500 Americans die from heart-related illnesses. While some heart conditions are hereditary, other cases can be directly linked to diet. To underscore the importance of developing healthy eating habits and to prevent heart disease, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center recently teamed up with Sodexo Food Corporation to sponsor a cooking and tasting demonstration. Participants included area residents and members of the Society of Heart Hearty, a support group for heart transplant patients at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

Chf Paul Kelly of Sodexo and dietitians from Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, demonstrated creative ways to prepare fat-free or low-calorie foods that are appealing. The menu included: poached salmon, marinated flank steak, fettuccine alfredo, grilled vegetables and reduced fat pie dough. Chf Kelly offered tips on:

improving the taste and preparation of foods by using fresh herbs, peppers and fruits such as lemons and limes. The goal of heart healthy cooking is to prepare meals that are low in fat but are still flavorful."

Evelyn Penna, R.D., a registered dietitian at Newark Beth Israel

Medical Center offers important "heart healthy" tips when preparing meals:

1. Substitute canola or olive oil for the more traditional oils such as vegetable which contain a larger amount of saturated fat.

2. There has been a debate on the use of butter vs. margarine. Butter contains more saturated fat than margarine though margarine contains trans-fatty acids. It is still not known what effects trans-fatty acids have on the body. The important point to remember is that both butter and margarine should be used in moderation.

3. As a rule of thumb, consume foods that are under 30 percent fat. In order to calculate the percentage of fat, use the following method: Foods should contain three grams of fat per 100 calories. For example, a piece of cake that is 200 calories should have grams of fat or less. Use in moderation foods that contain high levels of cholesterol such as egg yolks, fatty meats, butter and cream. Be aware that low-fat products often replace the fat with another ingredient. For example, a low-fat salad dressing may contain more sugar than usual. For more information regarding heart-healthy cooking, please call the Newark Beth Israel

Medical Center dietitians at 973-926-4607.

Health care system launches new web site

LIVINGSTON—The Saint Barnabas Health Care System announces the launch of its Web site, WWW.SAINTBARNABAS.COM. Saint Barnabas is the largest and most diversified integrated health care delivery system in the state. Its new Web site provides online information on the System's ten hospitals, nine nursing homes, five ambulatory care facilities, three geriatric centers, its free-standing inpatient psychiatric facility and a statewide behavioral health network.

"SAINTBARNABAS.COM will serve as a doorway to New Jersey's most prominent provider of health services," said Ronald Del Mauro, President and CEO of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System. "This will be a site where the community can easily receive the latest information about our facilities and the range of medical services we provide."

The web site offers simple searching capabilities for specific medical services and facility information,

recent news and an online version of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System magazine, "Today's Web site also provides a calendar of educational events and programs that are open to the community."

Future Web applications will include a physician locator feature that will allow users to find and contact a specific physician based on name, medical specialty, hospital affiliation, or insurance carrier searches. Other planned additions to the site include a careers section, and interactive educational health games.

Saint Barnabas hospitals include: Clara Maass Medical Center in Belleville; Community Medical Center in Toms River; Livingston General Hospital in Irvington; Kimball Memorial Center in Lakewood; Monmouth Medical Center in Long Branch; Newark Beth Israel Medical Center in Newark; Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston; Union Hospital in Union; Wayne General Hospital in Wayne; and West Hudson Hospital in Kearny.

American Diabetes alert making headway after ten years

MORRISTOWN—The American Diabetes Association announced today that the number of people undiagnosed with diabetes has dropped by two million. Although the decrease in the undiagnosed is significant, there are still millions of people unaware of the presence of this silent killer.

"It is especially crucial to alert people to the dangers of diabetes because it can be a silent killer - gradually causing your body's blood vessels and nerves to deteriorate with no warning signs or symptoms," said Dawn Fork, CDE, RN, BS the American Diabetes Alert Chairperson. It is no wonder one out of three Americans who have diabetes don't know it."

The goal of the American Diabetes Alert is to inform people of the deadly link that exists between diabetes, age, inactivity, being overweight and having a family history of the disease. The centerpiece of the Alert is a simple, paper and pencil test people can take to assess their individual risk for the disease. The risk test is free and available by calling the Association at 1-800-DIABETES.

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CITY NEWS

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FINALLY, A HOME EQUITY LINE OF CREDIT THAT GIVES YOU THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS.

Term 15 years	Fixed Rate 3 years	Fixed Rate 5 years	Current variable rate*
Introductions fixed rate	7.50% APR	8.00% APR	9.50% APR

Investors Savings' Homeowners Equity Line of Credit, with a fixed introductory rate for 3 or 5 years and money-saving benefits.

Here's simply one of the smartest, easiest ways to free up the equity in your home and have the money to do the things you want. It's Investors Savings Bank's Homeowners Equity Line of Credit, and it features both a low rate and a list of extraordinary benefits. Just look at the advantages you get at Investors Savings:

- The comfort of a fixed rate for your choice of 3 or 5 years.
- After the fixed-rate period, variable-rate payments of only 1% over the prime rate for the life of your loan.
- The possibility of significant tax advantages.**
- No points.
- No appraisal fee.
- No application fee.
- You don't have to be a current customer of Investors Savings Bank to qualify.

* Based on the current prime rate of 8.50% + 1% margin.

** Interest is usually tax deductible, please consult your tax advisor.

This program is available only to new equity credit customers or to those who have had no credit line at Investors Savings Bank in the six months prior to application. You may borrow up to \$150,000. Your credit line and your first mortgage may not exceed 75% of the value of your house. After the fixed-rate introductory period, the interest rate of the loan becomes variable and changes to 1% over the prime rate for the life of the loan. Minimum APR is 5%.

Longer-term fixed-rate equity loans are also available. Get an application at your neighborhood investors' office or call our Loan Origination Department:

1-800-252-8119

Borrow with the best!

INVESTORS SAVINGS BANK

CORPORATE OFFICE: 240 Millburn Avenue, Millburn

CHATHAM: 150 Main Street 150 Main Street 150 Main Street	FRENCH: Highway 1 and Apple Road 1120 Liberty Avenue 1120 Liberty Avenue	MADISON: 150 Main Street 150 Main Street 150 Main Street	SPRINGFIELD: 173 Liberty Avenue 173 Liberty Avenue 173 Liberty Avenue
CLARK: 150 Main Street 150 Main Street 150 Main Street	BRIDGEWATER: 150 Main Street 150 Main Street 150 Main Street	ROCKY HILL: 150 Main Street 150 Main Street 150 Main Street	SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS: 150 Main Street 150 Main Street 150 Main Street
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* Deposits FDIC insured to \$100,000

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144 North Avenue
Plainfield, N.J. 07060

Fax legals to:
908-753-1036
24 hours a day

Legal Notice Legal Notice Legal Notice

INVITATIONS FOR BIDS HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEWARK

FOR ANNUAL CONTRACTS FOR SUPPLY MATERIALS

The Housing Authority of the City of Newark (NHA) will receive sealed bids for the following materials:

ON THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1998 AT 11:00 A.M.
98-912391 JANITORIAL SUPPLIES

ON THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1998 AT 11:00 A.M.
98-912392 JANITORIAL SUPPLIES

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proposals will be reviewed in accordance with the "Competitive Proposal" process outlined in HUD's Procurement Handbook.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Responses to this RFP are to be submitted to the following:

John A. Clarke
New Brunswick Housing Authority
71 Nelson Street, Newark, NJ 07102
New Brunswick, NJ 07001

All responses must be submitted to the above mentioned office on or before the April 16, 1998 (the end of the business day).

The Authority reserves the right to reject any and all proposals submitted and to waive any informality. In addition, the Authority reserves the right to request additional information from any and/or all respondent.

New Brunswick Housing Authority
John A. Clarke
Chief of Staff/Acting Executive Director

\$119.60

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

71 Nelson Street, New Brunswick, New Jersey 07003
(732) 745-5147 Fax (732) 214-8805

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

1998 PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING DRUG ELIMINATION GRANT (PDEG)

The New Brunswick Housing Authority (the Authority) owns, operates and maintains four complexes consisting of 563 low-income public housing units. Schwartz Homes (200 units), Robinson Village (59 units), Memorial Homes (246 units) and Hoffman Pavilion (59 units) are all maintained and managed by the Authority.

SERVICE TO BE PROVIDED

The Authority is seeking written proposals for a Professional Management Consultants (firm) or individuals to provide the following services relating to the 1998 PDEG:

*Prepare and develop an overall plan and application for the 1998 PDEG for the New Brunswick Housing and Urban Development Authority.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Consultant (or firm) should provide written information and data on the Company's qualifications and experience and demonstrate its ability to perform the requested services outlined in this RFP. The Consultant will be selected based upon the responses to the four mentioned requested information and the proposals will be reviewed in accordance with the "Competitive Proposal" process outlined in HUD's Procurement Handbook.

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New Brunswick Housing Authority
John A. Clarke
Chief of Staff/Acting Executive Director

\$122.20

APARTMENTS AND PUBLIC NOTICE

Senior Public Housing
Applications being accepted
100 Third Ave., Asbury Park
Mondays and Wednesdays only

\$17.10

FOR THE MAY 12, 1998 NEWARK MUNICIPAL ELECTION

CITIZENS MAY REGISTER TO VOTE AT THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF REGISTRATION AND SUPERINTENDENT OF ELECTIONS
33 WASHINGTON STREET, 1ST FLOOR, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

DAILY 8:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.
(MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY)

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THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

CITY HALL, 300 BROAD STREET - ROOM B-9,
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

DAILY 8:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.
(MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8 AND THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1998

APRIL 13, 1998

(8:30 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.)

LAST DAY TO REGISTER IS APRIL 13, 1998 FOR THE MAY 12, 1998 NEWARK MUNICIPAL ELECTION

City Clerk
ROBERT P. MARASCO
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

\$65.00

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE FOR BIDS

PARKING AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF MORRISTOWN

10 PINE STREET

MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY 07960

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that sealed bid proposals will be received by the Parking Authority of the Town of Morristown, New Jersey until 2:00 PM prevailing time on Wednesday, April 22, 1998 at the offices of the Morristown Parking Authority, 10 Pine Street, Morristown, New Jersey, 07960 at which time they will be publicly opened.

Sealed bids shall be received for the following project:

PHASE I - PRE-CAST CONCRETE WORK

FOR

NEW PARKING GARAGE

Notice to Bidders, bid and bond forms, general and supplementary conditions, drawings, specifications and other contract documents may be examined during normal office hours at the offices of the Construction Manager, Wm. Blanchard Co., 159 Main Street, P.O. Box 206, Springfield, New Jersey 07081.

Drawing and specifications will be located in the office of the Construction Manager, Wm. Blanchard Co., 159 Main Street, P.O. Box 206, Springfield, New Jersey 07081.

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Local Briefs

President calls for feds to seize drug dens

NEWARK—Municipal Council President Donald Bradley wants the federal government to step-up their efforts in the war on drugs. The law allows for the government to make immediate seizure of property if it is the site of a drug den. Bradley said, "It was done in Ocean County earlier in the month and it was effective in ridding that community of a major health and safety hazard. Sure, it's an extreme measure but the situation calls for it."

In the Ocean County case the landlord of a rooming house in Lakewood, where police had been called numerous times to investigate reports of drug sales and abuse, was arrested and charged with allowing crack cocaine and other drugs to be manufactured and trafficked from the house.

Council President wants meeting to keep criminals in jail

NEWARK—The city's crime rate may be falling according to the latest statistics but the rate of recidivism hasn't changed a bit. That was the message Mayor Douglas Palmer gave at a meeting of the Municipal Council President Donald Bradley at a meeting at Perth Amboy School last night. Bradley said that the city has been successful in dealing with crime on an almost daily basis are back out on the street the next day if not within a few days. Councilman Bradley shares their anger and frustration.

"I've contacted the Prosecutor's Office and the District Attorney's Office," said Councilman Bradley. "I want to see that we utilize our respective statutory options to their fullest extent. I'm going to set up a meeting with those entities to try to focus our collective energies on just such an endeavor," Bradley said.

"It's Raining Men" Auction Spectacular

NEWARK—April is the season for excitement, and Newark Emergency Service Families, Inc. (NESF) is hosting an evening of exciting auction items up for bid.

On Thursday, April 16, from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Newark Club will host its 14th Annual Fund-Raising Auction. "Once again, we are honored to have corporate sponsorship from Chase Manhattan Bank, and the continuous support of corporations, found a public officials, and the community-at-large," said Jeanette Page-Hawkins, executive director of NESF.

"The proceeds from the auction will assist NESF's programs and services for those in need who reside in Essex County. In 1997, NESF assisted over 38,000 families in need of food, clothing, shelter, and medicine; many face eviction, utilities shut-off, or the trauma of a violent crime. NESF also provides assistance to the homeless, working poor, and those impacted by HIV/AIDS."

Admissions is \$20. For ticket information or to donate an item, call 973-645-5727.

Teens talk tough on 'Family Talk'

UNION—Growing up is not easy for teens, especially with an increase in teen violence, drug use and families that are torn apart by divorce. But one thing is certain: talking about these and other issues can help avoid a crisis later.

Mary Amoroso, host of CN8's "Family Talk," will devote her May 21 show to allow teens to express their concerns, and give them an opportunity to talk about the issues that affect them most. As a result, CN8 has created a new contest called "Teen Talk."

Teenagers, ages 14 to 18, can submit a one-page essay outlining a topic that is important to them, and tell Amoroso why they think their idea should be discussed on the May 21 "Teens at the Roundtable" show.

"Family Talk is known for dealing with a wide range of issues that affect all of us," Amoroso said. "It will be interesting to have young people explain their fears and challenges."

This program, the winner of the 1996 Cable ACE Award as the best local talk show in the nation, was nominated for a 1997 Mid-Atlantic Emmy Award.

Teens interested in the Teen Talk Contest should send a one-page essay, along with their name, address and phone number to Teen Talk, CN8, 800 Highway Avenue, Union, NJ 07083. The deadline is May 7.

Municipal Authority warns against private haulers

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Municipal Utilities Authority (PMUA) has issued a consumer alert warning residents to be wary of misleading offers from private haulers to provide garbage collection services independent of the PMUA.

Garbage haulers, who recently lost a lawsuit against the PMUA, are distributing materials to residents claiming they can provide collection services for a lower price than the PMUA rate.

To start services, the materials ask that residents just complete an application form, provide upfront payment to

the hauler, and notify the PMUA to stop billing for services.

"This is false and misleading," said PMUA Assistant Executive Director, David Ervin.

"As responsible haulers know, under the law and PMUA procedures, residents cannot at this immediately switch to private collection and cannot cancel PMUA service until residents have a variety of certifications concerning collection and disposal of the materials," Ervin said. "In the meantime, the haulers will have the benefit of upfront payments for services they

can't deliver."

Ervin said the PMUA intends to notify both county and state environmental and consumer affairs agencies of this practice, and is now developing regulations that will give residents the option to contract with private haulers instead of the PMUA. "We hope to have these rules in place by early April and will make an extensive effort to notify residents of the guidelines and their options."

Explaining that this is not a simple process and the PMUA does not have to say over it, Ervin said that, as a

regulated agency, they are obligated to develop, manage, and oversee a plan for efficient waste removal disposal and treatment for all households in the city. "We are also responsible for monitoring and enforcing the regulation whether or not the residents contract with us or a private hauler," he said.

"We are encouraged by strong public acceptance of our program and don't expect many residents to choose private haulers," said Executive Director Eric Watson. "Our services are comprehensive, convenient and are priced very competitively."

Rice calls for stop of gang dumping in Newark

TRENTON—Senator Ronald L. Rice today called on his legislative colleagues to take immediate action to halt the transfer of gang members in prisons to Northern State Prison in Newark.

The citizens of Newark and the Legislature should have had a say in this plan to import gang members from across the state to Northern State Prison in Newark," Senator Rice, D-Essex, said in a letter to the matter on the Senate floor Monday.

"The Whittman Administration has come up with a plan to round up all the gang members in prisons throughout New Jersey and dump them in Newark. That's not right. This plan needs to go before the Legislature and allow the citizens to have input into this poorly thought out scheme."

Senator Rice, who also serves as a Newark City Councilman, noted he and the Newark City Council will have a public hearing in Newark on April 14 on this issue.

"At that public hearing, I have invited the newly sworn in state commissioner of Corrections as well as my legislative colleagues on the committees that deal with law and budget

tissues," Senator Rice said. "The citizens of Newark and of New Jersey voted on the state bond acts that support our prisons, but no one ever voted for moving gang members from across New Jersey prisons to Newark."

Senator Rice noted the possibility this plan may have violated the bond laws and indicated he would have the City Council legal staff investigate this matter. If in fact a violation did occur, he said they might file suit against the state.

On the Senate floor, Rice noted he had written to Governor Whitman in January asking her to hold legislative hearings on the gang plan. The people of Newark deserve nothing less," Senator Rice said in his letter.

"I have already invited the new Corrections commissioner to Newark for our April 14 public hearing, and I will invite Governor Whitman as well, he said. "Northern State Prison is a medium and minimum-security facility, not a maximum security facility as this gangbusting plan would imply. Why not find a maximum-security prison in which to house such members, if they must go housed in a separate prison?"

Long Branch education ballot positions set

LONG BRANCH—Avery Grant, candidate for the Long Branch Board of Education holds eye capsule that contained his line 6 place on the voting ballot. Six individuals are running for three positions on the Long Branch Board of Education. Incumbents Armand Zambrano and Robert Wiener are on lines 1 and 2, respectively. Former board member Shelly Owens is on Line 3; Harold Cooper is on Line 4; and Robert Goodman is on Line 5. The Board of Education elections are Tuesday, April 21, from 2 to 9 p.m.



Avery Grant

New pilot project for adult and technological literacy

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, together with Union County College, the United Way of Union County and IBM Corporation, has launched a valuable new service that is being made possible through their joint cooperation, the Mobile Computer Lab Pilot Project for Adult and Technological Literacy.

"Computer skills are critical in today's marketplace," said Freeholder Chairman Daniel P. Sullivan. "The Union County Freeholders believe that this investment in education and job training will result in greater opportunities for residents and a better economy."

The project was awarded one of only six competitive grants available in the tri-state region from IBM in the area of computer information technology.

The program will offer adult and computer literacy instruction to at least

112 low income adults and children throughout 1998 on portable computers. Potential students need to be service recipients of a United Way agency and in need of skills training to access the job market.

"Each class of only seven students will be taught by an instructor from Union County College, in two-hour sessions that total 40 hours over a ten-week period."

Adult classes will offer Introduction to Windows and Word for Windows. Children's classes will offer Introduction to Windows and Kidworks. Classes will be held at four United Way agency sites: the YMCA of Eastern Union County, the YMCA of Eastern Union County, the Urban League of Union County and the Interfaith Council for the Homeless of Union County.

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Union County Freeholder Chairman Daniel P. Sullivan, at right, joins Dr. Dennis Poller of Westfield, President of the United Way of Union County, at rear left, and Joan Corbett of Westfield, President of the Board of Governors of Union County College and a United Way Board Member, at rear center, at the kick-off of the Mobile Computer Lab pilot project. The students, who were waiting for their first lesson, are from front row left to right, Mary Parker, Sandra Keltcher, Karen Terry, Latifah Davidson and Alecia Boyd.

First black New Jersey voter is commemorated



On hand to officially designate March 31 as Thomas Mundy Peterson Day are, from left, Wiggy Morton, Life Member of the NAACP, Perth Amboy Mayor Joseph Vass, Assemblyman John Wisniewski, Senator Joseph Vitale and Assemblywoman Arline Friscola.

PERTH AMBOY—Legislation sponsored by Assembly Deputy Constitution. He cast his name in a municipal charter referendum in the city of Perth Amboy on March 31, 1870.

"The celebration of this day illustrates the importance of the vote in our democratic process and the difficulties many Americans experienced in securing it," noted Friscola (D-Middlesex). "This formal designation would be a fitting memorial of Peterson's historic vote opening the door for African Americans to more fully take part in the political process."

Thomas Mundy Peterson was the first African American to vote in the

Cuomo announces \$3.8 million in grants

WASHINGTON—Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo today designated 212 acres near downtown Trenton as HUD's eighth Homeownership Zone and awarded the city a \$3.8 million grant. The action is expected to attract an additional \$30 million in investment to transform the highest inner city area into a thriving neighborhood of owner-occupied single-family homes.

HUD's investment will lead to the construction of 177 new homes and the rehabilitation of 73 others. A total of 177 of the 250 homes will be reserved for low-income families. The Zone is expected to increase the homeownership rate from 30 percent to 50 percent in the neighborhood.

In addition to the 250 homes that will replace vacant lots and blighted properties in the Zone, a retail center financed by private investment will bring a new supermarket, a health care center and educational facilities to the neighborhood.

Cuomo announced the designation in a telephone news conference with Trenton Mayor Douglas Palmer, Senator Frank Lautenberg and Congressman Christopher Smith.

"HUD's Homeownership Zone initiative is designed to turn back the clock on urban decay," Cuomo said. "It will help revitalize Trenton and other cities after decades of decline and help neighborhoods that prospered in years past to achieve a new prosperity in the years ahead."

The Homeownership Zone initiative is a successful partnership that combines the resources of government on all levels, homeowners, non-profit groups and the business community, Cuomo said.

The Zone, located north of downtown Trenton along the banks of the Delaware and Raritan Canal, currently has some of the highest crime, vacancy and poverty rates in the City, and also suffers from environmental contamination. Environmental cleanup is already underway at three sites known as brownfields, and will be completed as part of the development plan for the Zone.

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